

THE EVENING STAR

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON.

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The Vital Issue.

Among the many pointed and intelligent questions concerning the half-and-half plan propounded at yesterday's meeting of the Pastors' Federation were those which developed the thought that too much money for District needs is or will be raised under the half-and-half plan, and the suggestion that in the best interests of the District its revenue from liquor licenses should not be duplicated by the nation. It has been shown clearly that the "surpluses" of the last few years have been artificially constructed, in violation of existing law, and do not represent any real excess of revenue over genuine and urgent needs of the capital municipality. But it is also recognized that the steady increase in the already heavy realty taxes and the possible addition of new taxes may hereafter result in the raising of more revenue than the sum equivalent to one-half of the capital's annual needs. In this event it has been urged in The Star's editorial correspondence and it has been suggested at the hearings before the joint congressional committee that a surplus be prevented by omitting the half-million revenue from liquor licenses from duplication under the half-and-half plan, thus killing two birds with one stone.

There are many who agree with the prohibitionists as to the bad policy of duplicating liquor license money under the half-and-half plan and would unite with them to eliminate this revenue from such duplication. On the other hand, there is no other class of Washingtonians which is more clearly interested in maintenance of the half-and-half plan, thus modified, than the prohibitionists. The loss of revenue under prohibition, which might easily be conceived as bearable by the local taxpayers if under the continued half-and-half plan the nation contributed annually to capital upbuilding a certain definite sum, proportioned to local property taxes, and amounting to six or seven million dollars, would loom mountain high as a threat to the local community of excessive taxation on other lines, if through destruction of the half-and-half plan the national contribution were reduced in amount and rendered fluctuating and uncertain. The local taxpayers might spare the revenue from liquor licenses, but they could not spare the equitable, definite, national contribution under the half-and-half plan as revised and brought up to date.

Projects for moral betterment always suffer first when on account of a shortage in municipal revenue provision for meeting some of the city needs must be omitted. The strongest advocates of a certain definite and equitable national contribution toward capital upbuilding should be those of us who are sincerely concerned in such moral betterment. Washingtonians should not be confused as to the vital issue in this discussion. It is the issue raised by the House in the last Congress when, misled into erroneous beliefs by untruths concerning the taxable resources and tax burdens of Washingtonians, it sought to repeal the half-and-half plan in order to double the present tax burden of the local community. At the recent hearings Washington has demonstrated the falsity of the alleged facts upon which this belief and this action of the House were based. In resisting this unjust and ruin-threatening attack practically all Washingtonians stand together. We ought not to weaken the strength of our united resistance on the vital issue by exploiting unduly our individual theories and "fads" and by wrangling over minor details.

The Speakership.

There is now before us an exhibition of the great change made four years ago when the office of Speaker of the House was stripped of all real power, and its occupant left with nothing but the gavel in his hand. Until then the speakership had been second in importance only to the presidency. Since then it has possessed next to no importance at all. It would have been quite lost to view except for the man occupying it. He has conferred distinction upon it, rather than it upon him.

The House is assembling at a time of the utmost gravity. Not two or three, but many things are pressing for attention. It is a time when not only every member should do his duty, but should be assigned so as to give the country the best that is in him. No square peg should be put into a round hole, no round peg into a square hole. Every piece of the machine should be in its proper place. But what do we see? One of the most experienced members of the

body, its most effective orator, and one of its most striking and interesting personalities, assigned to the duties of a presiding officer, with his talents limited to exercise over points of order and to the putting of motions to adjourn. Could anything be less logical or less businesslike? Was ever before so much good legislative material wasted?

Of course, Mr. Clark can descend to the floor and speak on any subject that appeals to him; can record his vote on any question that comes up; can make suggestions to any member or any committee on any matter in hand. But such privileges do not cancel the fact that, as he is left by the present arrangement, he must "butt in," or wait for an invitation. Nothing is expected of him on his own initiative.

Take the case of preparedness. It is reasonably certain that had not the President invited him, Mr. Clark would not have called at the White House to discuss the most important issue of the day. And it so happens that on that issue Mr. Clark is in agreement with the President and public sentiment, while the man who under the new arrangement is the leader of the House is in opposition. This change as to the speakership was ordered because of the clamor the democrats had made against what they called "Cannonism." But that clamor had also embraced "gag rule"; and yet as to that they have copied the republicans most faithfully. Why make fish of one feature of "Cannonism" and flesh of another?

Democratic Preliminaries.

Harmony is a mighty good watchword, and the democrats in Congress need it in their business. Can they employ it successfully through the session? There will be much use for it in both houses.

In the Senate caucus a start was made yesterday by the re-election of Mr. Kern to the majority leadership of the Senate. It was decided that one satisfactory term deserved another. The Indiana senator is in complete accord with the administration, and will be in confidential communication with the President as the different questions come up. Team work between the two is assured. Moreover, the honor conferred will probably help Mr. Kern in his campaign next year for a second term in the Senate. The Indiana situation is a bit disquieting for the democrats, and Mr. Kern will need the help.

Tomorrow, it is expected, Mr. Clarke of Arkansas will be chosen for a second term as Vice President pro tempore. Some doubt has been thrown about Mr. Clarke's case owing to his action in the last Congress on the ship-purchase bill. He led the democratic opposition which defeated that measure, and there has been no announcement of a change of opinion on his part. Will he oppose the measure again? It is understood he will have the chance.

Another very interesting question is this: Will Mr. Clarke support cloture? and, if in the chair when the question comes up, will he rule in favor of the opposition? It is announced that, owing to his wife's illness, Vice President Marshall will not be present when the Senate convenes, and may not be in his place for some days later.

Mr. Clarke, if presiding, will confront a two-fold embarrassment. As the temporary occupant of the chair he will be called upon to rule upon motions of permanent and far-reaching importance, and at the same time to bind his own hands as a member of the Senate in favor of a ship-purchase bill possessing the same character to which he objected in the last Congress. For there is a widespread belief that cloture at this time has particularly to do with passing the ship-purchase bill.

The House democrats are consulting behind closed doors, and have anything but an easy job. With all the care the committee on committees may take, it is certain not to discharge its duty without inflicting some pain. Old members will find advancement and new members a fine start, and everybody cannot be pleased.

As a politician with his ear to the ground King Constantine of Greece might set an example even to the most alert and enterprising campaigner.

If any submarine sinks the Oscar II there will be no chance of contending that the ship was armed or carrying a munition cargo.

When it comes to his place on the Nebraska republican ticket Col. Roosevelt looks something like a standpatter.

Henry Ford's peace ship has taken the place of his motor car as a jestful topic for some of the irreverently inclined.

Freedom of speech is one of the most cherished of human liberties; and one of the most sadly overworked.

The Imperial Meeting at Vienna.

From Berlin is announced a visit paid by Emperor William to Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria at the latter's castle in Vienna. The particular interest in this matter lies in the fact that it was the first meeting of the two monarchs since the opening of the war. The German kaiser has been so busy on his various fighting fronts that he has not had time to journey to Austria to confer with his ally, while the latter has been in ill-health and too feeble to travel himself. The suggestion immediately arises that there is some particular occasion for this conference, and speculation, always

speedy, has already couched the im-

perial visit with the report that Austria, contrary to Germany's wish and policy, is secretly seeking to make a separate peace with all of the allies. Such reports are likely to develop and circulate at any time during a conflict of this character. The chances are always against their truthfulness. At any rate, it may be assumed that if there is any substance whatsoever in the suggestion that Austria is seeking the basis of separate agreement with the allies Emperor William will do his utmost, and probably successfully, in the course of his visit to Vienna to stop such a procedure. Austria is in no position to make peace against the wish of her powerful ally, without whose aid she would now have been crushed under the Russian steamroller.

Peace that relies on a defenseless condition to shame possible aggression into magnanimity constitutes rather a humble plea. Peace with preparedness would constitute an example of forbearance to be proud of.

When Great Britain decided she wanted Canada's wheat she did not wait for speculators to get together and try to make arrangements as to the price.

As a prudent statesman, it is Carranza's duty to make a prompt showing in Mexico that will prove his worthiness of the recognition so eagerly sought.

The office that seeks the man wants to bring along a guarantee if it hopes to appeal to the modern statesman already enjoying comfortable prospects.

Ocean conditions are such as to make it unlikely that Sir Thomas Lipton's plucky enterprise will be heard from in a long time.

France succeeded in giving her "Loan of Victory" an exceedingly catchy title.

Kitchener has a way of making his speeches sound firm whether they sound friendly or not.

It is quite possible that atrocity records have not been kept in Mexico as systematically as in Europe.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

Migration.

"Haven't you a church in Crimmon Gulch?"

"We did have one," replied Broncho Bob; "but we had to give it up. The town couldn't stand it."

"Didn't you show it proper respect?"

"All kinds. Nobody liked to play cards or holler up to the barkeep with a church so near. So as a matter of respect every Sunday the boys all shook Crimmon Gulch and transferred the entire business of the town to Bearcat Center."

Different.

"They say marriage is a lottery," remarked the morose young man.

"It isn't," replied Miss Cayenne. "In a lottery you can go on buying tickets."

The Busy Life.

I love to loaf the livelong day. I guard 'gainst stimulating mirth And read to pass the hours away About Efficiency's great worth.

Appropriate Title.

"What do you think we ought to call our peace ship?" inquired the skipper.

"Let's follow the system by which submarines are named," replied the mate. "Let's call it the B-9."

Notable Product.

"I hear Nebraska mentioned very frequently," commented the distinguished stranger.

"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum. "Nebraska is a great and enterprising state."

"What is it famous for?"

"Well, I haven't posted myself very accurately on its commercial and social side. Politics is my study. And so far as politics is concerned Nebraska is largely famous for unfinished business."

Reminders.

When de days is gittin' glummer An' de frosty breezes fly, A little bit o' summer Comes a smilin' in de sky; A little bit o' shinin' Like we had when treetops 'jinin' Sheltered birds beneath their twain' P'um de hotness of July.

We're bleeged foh to remember Dat de wind is boun' to blow, 'Cause we's driftin' to December An' we's ginner shover snow. But fum time to time de gleasun' Of de sun will come a-streamin' So de help along de dreamin' Of de summer, long ago.

British Censor.

The Chicago Herald.

The British censor is being greatly criticised, but our idea of a British censor is a man who positively does on just that sort of thing.

English Toys.

From the Springfield Republican.

England also has a boom in the manufacture of Christmas toys, having previously, like most of the other western nations, bought most of its Christmas toys in Germany.

His Constituents.

From the New York Sun.

Wall would it be if every congressman about to set out for Washington should realize that at this crisis in the history of the nation his constituents number over a hundred million American citizens.

Free Instructions in Knitting and Crocheting to all purchasers of Columbia Yarns.

Art Needlework, Second floor.

Woodward & Lothrop

New York—WASHINGTON—Paris.

In the Auditorium Each Day at 3 O'Clock—Illustrated Travel Talk on Bermuda. You Are Invited.

We Announce, to Begin Tomorrow Morning and to Continue Through Thursday and Friday, Our Annual Christmas Exhibition of Distinctive and Exclusive Gift Things.

Comprising Jewelry, Watches, Diamonds, Clocks, Photo Frames, Silverware, Fans and Opera Requisites, Handbags, Leather Goods, Marbles and Bric-a-Brac, Stationery, Desk Appointments and Smokers' Articles, Liberty Wares and Fabrics, Lamps, Domes, Electroliers and Shades, Art Embroidery and Fancy Work, New Lacquered Ware and Oriental Novelties.

Handbags of Rare Distinction for Day and Evening Use.

A noteworthy collection, representing the finest effects ever created, of fabrics and leathers, though the fabrics take precedence over the latter for magnificence and rarity of beauty and fashion, jeweled and embellished, and some made on frames and others in the soft crush styles and shapes.

Fabric Bags—White Velvet Bags, embellished with steel beads and tassels, and lined with white silk; coin purse and small mirror, \$45. A new Velour Bag has plaits around the center, edged with fur and lining of maize silk; inside frame lined with kid; small coin purse, \$25.00. Green Velvet Bag, with fur bottom and lining of cream moire silk; inset frame, small coin purse and mirror, \$25.00. Amber frame and small lined with silk; amber frame and small lined with silk, \$10.50. Other Lovely Bags of moire silk and velvet, in new shapes and colors, \$7.00 to \$45.00.

Leather Handbags—Plaid Seal and Morocco Leathers, lined with silks in plain colors and fancy patterns, and in any number of desirable shapes and sizes—plaid effects, envelope shapes and small novelty shapes. New inset frames, with small purses and mirrors in many of them. Black, green and blue, \$5.00 to \$15.00.

The Practical Leather Things and Leather Novelties

Among which are a great many articles useful to travelers and particularly suitable as gifts to men. They are made of the finest leathers and in the most acceptable shapes and designs.

Safety Match Cases, of Morocco leather, containing one or six packages of matches; one package case, \$3.50; six packages, \$3.15.

Tobacco Pouches, small pouches of velvet or rubber-lined silk in striped patterns; \$2.00 each.

Pincushions, of crushed Morocco, with velvet top; oval shape, in rose and blue color, \$4.00.

Crushed Morocco Whisk Cases, with whisk, celluloid shoe horn and mirror at top of case, in rose and blue colors, \$4.00.

Crushed Morocco Cases, rose color, lined with velvet, for holding men's jewelry; cuff buttons, stick pins, etc., \$5.00.

Handkerchief Cases, leather lined, with four flaps; one style plain and one with silk-covered pad inside of case; \$4.00 and \$5.00.

Tie Cases, with tie racks inside; several colors; \$5.00.

Tie Cases of leather, with large pockets, which may be used for cuff buttons and small pocket for collar buttons, \$5.00.

Glass Flasks, with leather cover and nickel top; half pint and pint sizes; \$1.25 and \$2.00.

Glass Flasks, in leather cases; several sizes; \$2.25 to \$5.00.

Cologne Bottles of glass in wicker case, with nickel top, \$2.50 to \$3.50.

Pocketbooks, in many styles and several sizes, some with strap fastenings and others with clasps; \$1.50 and \$2.00 each.

Medicine Cases for travelers, of Morocco, in several colors, fitted with bottles for medicines; 50c. to \$3.50.

Emergency Cases of leather, fitted with "first-aid" needs and medicine bottles, \$3.00 to \$7.00.

Women's Week-end Traveling Bags, of English Morocco, lined with silk and fitted with Parisian ivory, French gilt or nickel toilet articles; in blue, black and purple; \$25.00 to \$100.

Traveling Bags of vashet leather and Morocco, lined and fitted with necessary toilet articles, \$10.00.

Traveling Cases, of leather, silk lined and fitted with toilet articles, or unfitted, suitable for men and women, \$5.00 and \$10.00.

Beautiful Opera Bags and Fans.

All the newest and most exquisite creations of this kind—soft and elegant fabrics, with handsome mountings and unusual and beautiful shapes.

MUFF BAGS of black silk, with black lining, and black silk with gold lining, with the silk cord drawstring at top; the latest novelty, \$6.50 each. Also of Black Velvet, with silk lining, \$10.50.

VELVET OPERA BAGS, in all the wanted evening colors, with gilt-edged top and cord drawstring, silk lining, \$6.50.

DRESDEN SILK OPERA BAGS, lined with satin and finished with frilled top and ribbon drawstrings, \$4.00 each.

BEADED BAGS, in white, with colored beads, in the exquisite and intricate floral designs, with the proper colorings beautifully blended to produce the dainty floral tones, and also other designs and colors in beaded effects, \$2.50 to \$3.00. Amber or nickel frames.

NEW SILK BAGS, with an over-veiling of net and tiny red and blue trimmings, and a mirror bottom. Evening shades, with contrasting lining and gilt cord; \$5.00.

LOVELY FANS—WHITE GAUZE FANS, gilt and silver spangled designs, some hand painted, 75c. to \$4.50. HEAVILY SPANGLED FANS, in all evening colors, \$2.00 to \$3.00. NEW FEATHER FANS, of quill or ostrich plumes, in white, yellow and black and white combined; some with amber sticks and frames, \$2.50 to \$3.00. OSTRICH FEATHER FANS, in yellow, black, white and pink, with shell frames, \$5.00 and \$10.00.

Quaint Dinner Favors, Place Cards, Etc.

To meet the demands of the most exclusive folk for novelties and table favors, suitable for dinner, teas, cotillions, receptions and other social events we select a great many unusual novelties of the most refined and beautiful character. These are now on display near the Stationery Store, Dinner Cards and favors, Tally Cards and Score Cards. Place Cards will be decorated to order upon short notice.

Connoisseurs, lovers of art and beauty and seekers of the finest and most exclusive Christmas Gifts are extended a special invitation to visit and critically inspect the many beautiful things included in this Christmas exhibition, which we have just completed. It is an assemblage worthy of this store and its clientele, and for which we are indebted to the whole world.

This exhibition is held later this year than it has been heretofore, but we believe it will be of greater helpfulness to Christmas shoppers on this account—placing before them the absolutely new and the exclusive and elegant at a time when they are interested in buying for their friends and relatives.

We advise choosing now—It is none too early, and there are many one-of-a-kind and exclusive articles that will never be shown again, and are impossible of duplication, which fact adds much to their appreciable value. Gifts selected now will be held until delivery is desired.

The exhibition will occur in the respective departments, Main and Second Floors, but today we devote our entire announcement to that found on the Main floor. There are hundreds of fascinating gift things unobtainable elsewhere, which we do not mention.

Exquisite and Original Designs and the Highest Intrinsic Quality Distinguish Our Christmas Displays in the Jewelry Store

Magnificent Gems that will be recognized for their exactness of cutting and purity of color and mounting, and the less expensive pieces with an excellence of design and high standard of workmanship characterizing each one as a masterpiece.

Women's Gold Jewelry for Christmas.

Friendship Brooches, \$2.00 to \$25.
Barpins, \$4.00 to \$10.00.
New Lingerie Clasps, \$3.75 to \$6.00.
Dainty Handy Pins, \$1.50 to \$2.00.
New Lorgnons, \$10.00 to \$15.00.
Bracelets and Bangles in an unlimited variety of exquisite designs, with and without settings, \$4.00 to \$100.
Seed and Baroque Pearl Earrings, \$9.50 to \$18.00.
Slipper Buckles, \$6.50 to \$15.00.

Ribbon Watch Guards, \$3.50.
Cuff Links, \$3.00 to \$4.00.
Cuff Buttons, \$3.00 to \$12.00.
Tie Clasps, \$2.00 to \$3.00.
Collar Buttons, 75c. to \$1.75.
Pins for Stock Ties, \$4.75 to \$7.50.
Dress Studs, \$2.00 to \$7.50.
Cigar Cutters, \$8.50 to \$12.50.
Watch Fobs, \$4.50 to \$22.50.
Key Rings and Chains, \$7.50 to \$18.00.
Coat Chains, \$6.50 to \$21.00.

Diamond and Precious Stone Christmas Jewelry

New Solitaire Rings, 1/4 to 1 1/2 karat.
New Cluster Diamond Rings in various designs.
Platinum and Sapphire Barpins.
Platinum and Diamond Lorgnons.
Diamond, Pearl and Sapphire Brooches.
Diamond and Sapphire Bracelets.
Diamond and Pearl Earrings.

Watches and Bracelet Watches for Christmas.

Expansion Bracelet Watches of platinum.
Expansion Bracelet Watches of gold.
Watches in odd and novelty shapes.
Elgin Watches in gold and gold-filled cases.
Waltham Watches in gold and gold-filled cases.
Howard Watches in their original gold and gold-filled cases.
Enamel Watches with sautoir.
Wrist Watches attached to band of black moire or gros grain ribbon.
Strap Watches of gun metal, silver, solid gold and gold filled.
Silver Extension Bracelet Watches.

Finest Silverware.

Our showing of Table and Household Silver embraces the finest designs in Sterling Silver by the best smiths of this country, including the handsome old colonial for stock ties and the more modern effects, also Sheffield Plate Silver. Hand-hammered Silver and the renowned makes in Plated Silver. Complete services or single pieces are offered in a variety that is most satisfying, and in keeping with our standard of beauty and excellence of quality.

Sterling Silverware.

Sugar and Cream Sets, lined with gold; plain styles; \$10.00.
Bonbon Baskets, pierced patterns; \$4.50 to \$15.00.
Sherbet Cups, plain design; \$3.00 each.
Individual Salts, set of six; glass in silver filigree, with silver spoons to match, \$6.50.
Vases in a number of sizes and patterns—buds to bouquets, \$1.00 to \$48.00; Mayonnaise Sets, \$10.00.
Nut Sets, pierced patterns, \$18.25.
Sherbet Sets, cups and spoons in case, \$3.25 to \$12.50.
Candlesticks, \$3.00 to \$8.50.

Hand-Hammered Silver.

Water Pitchers, quadruple plate, \$10.00.
Baking Dishes, \$8.50.
Cheese and Cracker Dishes, \$9.00.
Tea Sets, three pieces, \$16.25.

Bric-a-Bracs and Marbles.

This is a somewhat different collection of Ceramics, Bric-a-Bracs and decorative art wares than we have heretofore presented. Novel and exclusive creations in marbles, china, plastic ware. Exquisite colors and decorations. Rich in gifts of a distinctive character.

Awaji Ware.

A quaint, blue Japanese ware, with soft white floral decorations. Large Vases, \$3.50 and \$4.00; Chocolate Pots and Water Pitchers, \$1.50; Salad Bowls, 75c. to \$2.50; Sugar and Cream Sets, 50c.; Rose Jars, Pin Trays and Powder Boxes, 50c.; Vegetable Dishes, with covers, \$1.25 and \$2.00; Small Plates, 25c.; Candlesticks, \$1.00.

Bluebird Nippon China.

The dainty bluebirds in various sizes pictured on the wing and finished with a plain gold band around the edges. Chocolate Sets, Mayonnaise Sets, Cups and Saucers and many small dishes and bowls, 75c. to \$4.00.

Italian Marbles.

Marble Electric Lamps, several sizes and numerous artistic shapes; elegant for hall or library, \$25.00 to \$125.00. Marble Bowls for table centers; tintings of old marble, with small white marble doves poised on the edge, \$12.50 to \$60.00. Marble Pedestals, in white and green; various heights, \$10.00 to \$32.50. Marble Figures, small sizes, \$6.00 to \$25.00; larger sizes up to \$48.00.

Free Instructions in Crepe Paper Rope Work and other artistic decorative things.

Second floor, 7 street.

Clocks and Photo Frames.

Clocks ranging from the very small gilt and nickel clocks to the Handsome Mahogany Hall Clocks of stately design and beautiful finishes.

Mantel Clocks, eight-day, striking on the half hour and hour; brushed brass; polished brass and French gilt; glass sides and front; \$15 to \$45.

Boudoir Clocks of French gilt, brass and mahogany, \$7.00 to \$10.00.

Mahogany Wall Clocks; a novelty, with eagle at top and print under glass below the dial; \$5.50.

Folding Leather Traveling Clocks, in crushed Morocco, plain Morocco, some with flush-finish and some with calendars; \$1.75 to \$3.50.

Boudoir Clocks of solid mahogany, in plain and fancy scroll designs, \$1.75 to \$2.00.

Mahogany Mantel Clocks, in high-grade designs, eight-day, and Seth Thomas movement; \$4.50 to \$20.

Mahogany Grandfather Clocks, with foreign movement, with brass pendulum and weights, \$45.00.

Chimes Clocks, chime every quarter hour, \$95.00.

Magnificent Solid Mahogany Chimes Clocks, of beautiful design and make, with brass weights and pendulum, and Westminster or Notre Dame chimes; raised gold figures on dial, \$245.

Photo Frames